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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

DIST:

4 NOVEMBER 1994

COUNTRY: GUATEMALA

SUBJ:

COMMENTS BY A GUATEHALAN

IN THE PRESUMED DEATH OF INSURCENT COMMANDER EFRAIN

BAHACA VELASQUEZ, ALIAS "COHANDANTE EVERARDO"

DOI:

SOURCE:

SUMMARY: NONE.

TEXT: GUATEMALAN 🐨 1. WHO WAS IN QUETZALTENANCO IN 1992 COMMENTED ABOUT THE APPARENT DEATH OF INSURCENT COMMANDER EFRAIN ((BBAHACA)) EVELASQUEZ, ALIAS "COHANDANTE EVERARDO."

OH 12 MARCH 1992 HAD AN ARMED ENCOUNTER WITH A GROUP OF INSURGENTS. TWO INSURCENTS WERE KILLED DURING THE ENCOUNTER, INCLUDING WHAT APPEARED TO BE AN INSURCENT COMMANDER DUE TO HIS AMERICAN CAMOUFLAGED UNIFORM, NEW BOOTS, ICOM RADIO AND THE WEAPON HE CARRIED. COULD NOT IDENTIFY THE INSURGENT COMMANDER. HOVEVER,

INSURGENT COMMANDER WAS NOT CARRYING ANY IDENTIFICATION AT THE TIME OF HIS DEATH.

CLAINED HE REPORTED THE CASUALTIES TO THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND THE HUMAN RIGHTS REPRESENTATIVES IN QUETZALTENANCO, WHO HE ASSUMED TOOK CARE OF BURYING THE BODIES. HONTH AFTER THE ARMED ENCOUNTER,

INFORMED THAT HAD KILLED "EVERARDO" DURING THE ARHED CONFLICT ON 12 HARCH. AS A RESULT

IS NOW CERTAIN THAT THE INSURGENT COMMANDER KILLED WAS NOT "EVERARDO,"

COMMENT: IT IS POSSIBLE THAT THE ARMY SUBSTITUTED THE BODY OF THE KILLED INSURGENT COMMANDER WITH THAT OF "EVERARDO," WHO APPARENTLY WAS KILLED IN A SEPARATE LOCATION. THIS WOULD HAVE BEEN A WAY OF COVERING UP ANY EVIDENCE OF TORTURE WHICH HAY HAVE BEEN USED ON EVERARDO.)

4. AS A RESULT OF THE HAJOR HEDIA PUBLICITY BEING CIVEN TO

AT

THE SAME TIME, HILITARY COMMANDERS WERE TOLD TO PROVIDE ANY ASSISTANCE AND COOPERATE WITH ANY INVESTIGATION REGARDING THE BAMACA CASE, AS LONG AS THEY ARE PRESENTED WITH A VALID COURT ORDER.

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GUATEMALA, GUATEMALA CITY

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A. Marine